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versity, by C. E. Boldt, the results of which appear in the *Videnskabelige Meddelelser* for 1897 of the Natural History Society of that city.

Forest Trees.—Professor Büsgen, of the Eisenach Forestry School, has recently published a handbook of information concerning the structure and life processes of forest trees,¹ which are considered as to their winter aspect, the causes of their forms, buds, tissues, wood and bark structure, annual or growth rings, formation of heart wood, leaves, root activity, uses and source of water and mineral matters, metabolism and the transportation of food, fructification and germination. The illustrations, many of which are original, contribute materially to the elucidation of the subjects discussed. T.

The Work of Aldrovandus.—In December last the city of Bologna celebrated the opening of a hall commemorative of one of her first botanists, and the proceedings on that occasion, accompanied by an analysis of his works, form an attractive octavo pamphlet² which has recently been published.

Botanical Notes.—The volume of *Transactions of the Kansas Academy of Science* for 1895-96, issued in the early part of the present year, contains the following papers on botany: "Additions to the Grasses of Kansas," by A. S. Hitchcock; "Additions to the Flora of Kansas," by B. B. Smyth; "The Propagation of *Erythroniums*," by E. B. Knerr; and "A Provisional List of the Flowering Plants of McPherson County," by H. J. Harnly.

Dr. B. L. Robinson brings together, in the *Botanical Gazette* for March, notes extending the range of several North American species of Caryophyllaceæ which have come to his notice since the publication of the last fascicle of the *Synoptical Flora*, and adds to the flora two new species (*Stellaria oxyphylla* and *S. washingtoniana*, both from the Northwest), and two (*Arenaria uliginosa* and *Drymaria cordata*) previously described from without our range.

Under the title of "Contributions to Western Botany, No. 8"—unfortunately without evident indication of place of publication—

¹ Büsgen, M. *Bau und Leben unserer Waldbäume*. Jena, Fischer, 1897. 8vo, viii + 230 pp., 100 ills.

² Mattiolo, O. *L'Opera botanica di Ulisse Aldrovandi (1549-1605)*. Bologna, Fratelli Merlani, 1897. 8vo, xxx + 137 pp., with portrait.

Professor Marcus E. Jones, of Salt Lake City, Utah, has issued a pamphlet of some forty-five pages octavo, in which a considerable number of species of plants are described as new to science. Having had the good fortune, as he states, to see nearly all the types of North American Astragali during the past year, Mr. Jones has not a little to say about this much-vexed genus. A round-topped Composite shrub from the Panamint Mountains of California is made the type of a new genus, close to *Dysodia*, under the name *Inyonia dysodioides*.

No. 7 of Professor Greene's "Studies in the Compositæ," published in part in the signatures of *Pittonia* issued Feb. 25, 1898, contains a rearrangement of the Composite genus *Actinella*, which, since the name is held to be invalid because it was early used in a different sense, is renamed *Tetraneuris* as to most of its species, and *Rydbergia* as to *Actinella grandiflora* Gray and its variety *glabra*. Eight species are described as new.

The *Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club* for March contains a paper by Professor Greene on "New Compositæ from New Mexico," in which seventeen species or varieties and one genus, *Wootoria*, are described as new.

The Pacific Coast Valerianellas, under the generic names *Plectritis* and *Aligera*, form the subject of a brief synopsis by Mr. Saksdorf in *Eythia* for March. One additional species, *Aligera Jepsonii*, is described.

Dr. Small contributes a thirteenth part of his studies in the botany of the Southern United States to the *Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club* for March. Twenty-four species and one genus, *Forcipella*, pertaining to the Paronychiaceæ, are described as new.

Crépin's section *Minutifoliæ*, of the genus *Rosa*, receives a second species in *Rosa stellata*, of the New Mexican region, described and figured by Professor Wooton in the *Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club* for March.

Lilæa, a monotypic monocotyledonous genus widely distributed through the western part of the American continent, and concerning the systematic position of which there is diversity of opinion, has been studied by Professor Campbell, whose paper, published in the *Annals of Botany* for March, leads to the conclusion that while there is not much evidence of the direct derivation of this simple type from the Pteridopolytes, there is likewise no evidence that it represents a

degraded form, the author's belief being that the simplicity of its flowers is really primitive.

In a paper in the *Videnskabelige Meddelelser* of the Copenhagen Natural History Society for 1897, Dr. V. A. Poulsen, whose work in this field extends over many years, publishes a paper dealing with the extrafloral nectaries of *Exœcaria*, *Fragræa*, *Vaccinium*, and *Shorea*.

Professor Hitchcock, who is giving more time to œcological studies than most Experiment Station botanists appear to find time for, publishes as *Bulletin No. 76* of the Kansas Station at Manhattan a well-illustrated paper on "The Vegetative Propagation of Perennial Weeds."

Professor Pammel, whose work on the seedcoats of Leguminosæ and Euphorbia is well known, issues as contribution No. 6 from the Botanical Department of the Iowa State College a paper on the seeds and testa of some Cruciferæ, reprinted from the *American Monthly Microscopical Journal*. The paper is freely illustrated by figures showing the macroscopic appearance and microscopic structure of the seeds studied.

Dr. F. Höck, Oberlehrer in Luckenwalde, has recently published a concise elementary treatise on botanical geography.¹

Under the title "A First Ohio Weed Manual,"² Professor A. D. Selby publishes an instructive discussion of the weed question in general and a descriptive illustrated list of Ohio weeds.

Lathyrus splendens, a beautiful species of Southern California, is figured in the *Gardeners' Magazine* for February 12.

Vanilla is considered with respect to its botany, cultivation, microscopy and chemistry in the *Journal of Pharmacy of New York* for February.

The principal weeping willows form the subject of an instructive article by A. Rehder in *Moeller's Deutsche Gärtner-Zeitung* for February 19, in which good figures are published of *Salix elegantissima*, *S. alba vitellina pendula*, *S. blanda*, and *S. salomoni*.

¹ Höck, F. *Grundzüge der Pflanzengeographie*. Unter Rücksichtnahme auf den Unterricht an höheren Lehranstalten. Breslau, Ferdinand Hirt, 1897. 190 pp., 50 ills., 2 maps.

² Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, *Bulletin No. 83*. Wooster, Ohio, September, 1897. 8vo, 249-400 pp., 71 ills.

The rupestris section of *Selaginella*, as represented in the United States, forms the subject of a paper by Professor Underwood in the *Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club* for March, in which six species and one variety are described as new, and two previously described forms are resurrected as of specific rank.

Prof. E. A. Burt publishes in the *Botanical Gazette* for March a useful paper on collecting and preparing fleshy fungi for the herbarium.

In the fourth Heft of the current volume of Engler's *Botanische Jahrbücher*, Professor Engler brings to a conclusion his series of "Beiträge zur Flora von Africa." The contributors to this concluding paper are Engler, Hoffmann, and Kränzlin.

Professor Spegazzini, in the *Revista* of the La Plata agricultural and veterinary Faculty for August and September last, publishes an annotated list of something over two hundred species of Patagonian plants, several of which are described as new, under the title "*Primitiæ floræ Chubutensis*."

A novel local flora is the *Flora urbica pavese*, published by Traverso in the *Nuovo Giornale Botanico Italiano* for January, and enumerating an even century of flowering plants and ferns which grow spontaneously in the city of Pavia.

The third *Bulletin of the New York Botanical Garden* contains an interesting series of reports on the organization and administration of the establishment, a surprisingly long list of plants cultivated in 1897, and descriptions and illustrations of the proposed plant houses and museum building. The sites of the garden and the proposed zoological park are indicated on a simple outline map of Bronx Park.

Under the title of *The Cactus Journal*, a new monthly, devoted exclusively to cacti and other succulent plants, largely from the point of view of the cultivation of such plants, has been started in London. The first number, for February, 1898, is illustrated by two well-executed gelatine prints, from photographs, illustrating a number of interesting cacti.

From a study of the paper of a Hebrew document from the synagogue of Old Cairo, Mr. Dawson concludes that as far back as the year 1038,—the date assigned to the manuscript,—the process of manufacturing paper from the fibers of the flax plant was both known and employed.¹

¹ *Annals of Botany*, 12: 111-115, March, 1898.